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BRIEFER ARTICLES.

Some western plants.—*Astragalus Tweedyi*, n. sp.—Perennial, one to two feet high, somewhat branching above, whole plant finely pubescent with white appressed hairs, the cylindrical calyx more pubescent, the short teeth densely so: leaflets 6–12 lines long, 6–10 pairs; the short stipules free: pedicels much longer than the leaves; the white or pale yellow flowers twice as long as the calyx, on short pedicels which have persistent linear-acuminate bracts of about the same length: the turgid pods somewhat curved upwards or erect, strictly one-celled, acute at each end at the lower tapering into the half inch long somewhat inverted stipe.

Allied to *A. collinus* Dougl., but well distinguished by the erect, more turgid pods, the narrower less numerous leaflets, etc. It was collected by Mr. Howell "in prairies, Eastern Oregon" and distributed by him as *A. collinus* Dougl.; and by Mr. Tweedy (no. 613), and Mr. Brandegee (no. 731), on "hills along the Columbia river, Yakima county, Washington territory."

Prof. Greene, in the "Bulletin of the California Academy of Sciences no. 3, at page 157," takes up Dr. Gray's *A. collinus* var. *Californicus* and makes it his species *A. Californicus* evidently, I think, under a misapprehension of the original *A. collinus*, which he describes as having erect pods; whereas Hooker's original description, which is exactly copied in Torrey & Gray's Flora (1 vol. p. 347), says they are "deflexed." I presume Prof. Greene was deceived by Howell's specimens and name. The Californian plant should, therefore, remain as *A. collinus* Dougl., var. *Californicus* Gray.

Erigeron.—No. 77 in part, in the collection of the Northern Transcontinental Survey. Little Belt Mountains, Montana, F. L. Scribner, Aug. 12, 1883. Whole plant pubescent with short white appressed hairs (which become somewhat more copious and spreading on the involucre), small and low (two inches high), from a deep perennial root which bears at its crown the vestiges of the leaves of former years: stems several, simple, bearing single small heads: radical leaves as long as the stems, narrow linear; those of the stems few and small: involucre a quarter of an inch wide and high, of linear acute scales of equal length: rays 15–25, small, white: achenia compressed, not nerved, somewhat silky pubescent; pappus double, not copious, the outer short, the inner two-thirds the length of the disk flowers, more plumose than in allied species.

Nearly allied to *E. pumilus* Nutt., but with the pubescence of *E. canus* Gray, and much smaller in every way than either. The material is scanty, but I hope that more may soon be collected. Should it stand as a species, as I anticipate may be the case, I should propose the name of *E. Scribneri* in honor of its first collector.—WM. M. CANBY, *Wilmington, Delaware.*